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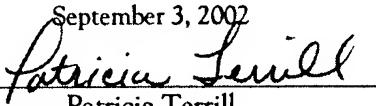
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U.S. PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE  
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Patent Docket P3230R1C31

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:  Dan L. Eaton et al.	Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned  Examiner: Not yet assigned
Serial No.: 10/063546  Filed: 5/2/2002	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>CERTIFICATE OF MAILING</b></p> <p>I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on</p> <p style="text-align: center;">September 3, 2002</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> _____ Patricia Terrill</p>

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to substantive examination of the above captioned patent application, Applicants respectfully request that the following amendments be entered.

In the specification:

Please delete the paragraph at page 1, line 2, that was previously added by preliminary amendment.

Please insert the following new paragraph at page 1, line 2:

--RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a continuation of, and claims priority under 35 USC §120 to, US Application 10/006867 filed 12/6/2001, which is a continuation of, and claims priority under 35 USC §120 to, PCT Application PCT/US00/23328 filed 8/24/2000, which is a continuation-in-part of, and claims priority under 35 USC §120 to, US Application 09/380137 filed 8/25/1999, which is the National Stage filed

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under 35 USC §371 of PCT Application PCT/US99/12252 filed 6/2/1999, which claims priority under 35 USC §119 to US Provisional Application 60/096959 filed 8/18/1998.--